

type "operations not allowed" is copied from the fixed security status in memory location 38 to the active file security status in memory location 62, and delete-on-close is initialized to value "do not delete on close" in memory location 64. An authorized credential is passed from the client 24 to the independent verification routine 14. Upon successful validation, the active file security status 62 is changed to access type "operations allowed". A set delete-on-close request is made by the client 24. The server 12 then checks the active file security status 62 in the file entry 60. The server then changes the delete-on-close status in memory location 64 to "delete on close". Then, upon closing, the file 32 is deleted. ✓

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end

#### In the Claims

Please amend claims 2, 10, and 13, as follows:

2. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a third memory associated with the file, said third memory for storing a delete-on-close status, said delete-on-close status initially set to a first value and changeable to a second value, wherein said first value indicates that the file will not be deleted upon closing and the second value indicates that the file will be deleted upon closing.

A2

10. (Once Amended) A method for creating a secure file on a file system, the method comprising:

- receiving from a user an open for write call for a file that does not exist at the time the call is received;
- recognizing that the file does not exist at the time the call is received;
- creating a file entry for said file;

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